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DDA-82-2626

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

FROM: Harry E. Fitzwater
Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT: Exemptions Proposed by DDS&T to the

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REFERENCE:

A. [] Policy and Procedures for
Management of Information Handling
Systems

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B. Memo for DDA from DDS&T, dated
25 October 1982, Subject: Proposed
Exemptions to []

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1. We appreciate the need to conduct research in an environment that is unfettered by the management imperatives that relate to large systems development. Relevant to senior level oversight management, we are not, therefore, concerned with research projects that have a limited life. Also, unless embedded systems interface with the broader Agency IHS environment, we are not concerned with them. Consequently, I agree with the exemption of research projects and embedded systems from the same process as applied to system developments. Even though not so stated in reference A, it is our intention to operate with the understanding that these exemptions apply. The suggested insert paragraph in reference B will serve as the operational guide.

2. I would prefer to proceed in this manner because [] has already been extended. The purpose of [] was to provide a general format with which to initiate the oversight management process and begin to gain some experience with it. I believe that the proper next step is preparation of the HR, rather than a revised HN, and I do not believe that we have proceeded far enough at this time to draft the HR.

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3. There are some further issues relevant to research or prototype systems which the IHSA will discuss with relevant DDS&T offices prior to preparation of any further guidance documents in this area. Among these are: What management procedures are relevant to prototype systems - how do we define the questions to be answered and how they are to be answered? How do we deal with prototype systems which turn out not to have a limited life. When prototypes are successful, they frequently begin to be relied upon for operational support and start growing into major systems that need to be interfaced with the broader Agency environment. Because they started as research projects, we then can have significant

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problems integrating and supporting them in such a broader environment.
We will need your help in resolving how we should deal with these cases.

Harry E. Fitzwater

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IHSA/DDA, /3 Nov 82 (4471BL)

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